COCHIN

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE BUDGET SESSION, 1116

Tuesday, *the* $\frac{\textit{5th August 1941}}{\textit{21st Karkadagan 1116}}$.

The Council met in the Council Hall, Ernakulam, at Eleven of the Clock with the Hon'ble President (M. R. Ry. K. ACHYUTA MENON AVL., B.A., B.L.), in the Chair.

Messrs T. P. Poulose, L. M. Pylee, T. V. Subramania Ayyar and H. J. Walmesley were absent.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

TOWN COUNCILS—CONTRIBUTION FROM PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

151. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they have given any contributions from the Public Health Department (lump provision for Rural Development) to the Town Councils in 1116;

(*b*) if answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, which all Town Councils have received those contributions and the amounts to each?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Yes.

			Rs.	*A.*	*P.*
(*b*)	Nemmara	..	3,384	12	0
	Kunnamkulam	..	5,777	4	6
	Vadakkancheri	..	3,821	13	6

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Is it the policy of the Government to continue the giving of such grants to these Town Councils as long as they exist?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* No.

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Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* How long will the Government continue giving such contributions?

Dr. A. R.Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* So long as it is found necessary to support them financially.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* So, is it due to the financial embarrassment of these institutions that the Government are financing them?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes. If they have got surplus of cash why should the Government give them any money?

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Before the Town Councils were constituted, may I know whether the Government adverted to this aspect also, *i.e.*, about the necessity of such lump grants to these institutions?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* There is a misconception involved in the question. This money has been given for years to these areas even before they were constituted as Town Councils. We are now only giving them what they have been enjoying for years. These lump allotments will be given till they are in a position to stand on their own legs. This is not an additional grant at all.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Pazhayannur):* If there were no Town Councils the Panchayats in those areas will get it.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Exactly. Most probably this can be stopped altogether in another four or five years.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* When the Town Councils were constituted it was stated by the Hon'ble Minister that, with their constitution, the amounts spent in those parts will be spent in villages. But this does not improve matters.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* You have to impose taxation. You have to collect the money. You have to frame rules. There are various other things to be done during the intervening period. As soon as these things are done, there will be a substantial reduction in the grants paid to these Town Councils. Till that time they will have to be given a grant every year as we are still doing in the case of the Trichur, Ernakulam and Mattancheri Municipalities in spite of their existence for more than quarter of a century.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* In the case of the Municipalities Government are giving large grants for

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particular purposes. Is the head of the Transferred Departments also going to pursue the very same policy?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Why not?

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* I am asking whether the Hon'ble Minister is continuing the same policy of giving large grants to these institutions which ought to be self-supporting, or is he going to discontinue that policy?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* That condition has not yet arisen. According to the conditions now existing, Government will help these institutions. The moment they find that the institutions can stand on their own legs, which, I hope, will be within three or four years, the grant will be reduced. The intention of the Government was not to saddle the people with additional taxation the moment they constitute Town Councils. We are not going to thrust them on the people. Government will render financial help till such time when they are satisfied that such help is not necessary. This is the policy pursued with regard to the Municipalities also in the State. I propose to continue the same policy.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING—STEPS TAKEN TO WIDEN—SCOPE OF

152. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state the steps, if any, taken by the Minister for Rural Development to improve or develop or widen the scope of industrial training given in the industrial schools in the State and how far they have proved to be successful?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The question of reorganising the industrial education in the State was recently considered by Government. As a matter of fact, the Director of Industries and Commerce prepared an elaborate scheme. But, due to financial stringency, the scheme was ordered to wait for better times.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know, Sir, whether the Government will be prepared to conduct a geological survey in the State to find out whether there is any further scope for industrialisation? The Government have accepted my resolution.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* The man has got appointment elsewhere *(Laughter)*.

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